Workers of the World, Unite !

THE MILITANT

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WALTER WHITE COMPLAINS ABOUT "MILITANT" ARTICLE

--- See Page 3 ---

NMU Heads Demand Oath Of "Loyalty" by Members

By R. Bell

"In the shadow of Taft-Hartley," reads the first sentence of the lead article in the latest issue of the *Pilot*, official paper of the CIO National Maritime Union, "the National Council met in New York this week to review the work of the Union to date and to prepare the ground-work for contract negotiations and the September convention."

The NMU had been informed that the National Labor Relations Board had resumed its attack on the union hiring hall by pushing for a court decision to ban the closed shop under the Taft-Hartley Act.

The National Council had the job of formulating much needed revisions of the union contract which expires on June 15 and of rallying the membership around their demands.

It was also charged with the responsibility for completing arrangements for the coming NMU convention in September.

"T-H" AMENDMENTS

Meeting "in the shadow" of these weighty problems the NMU National Council, under the leadership of President Joseph Curran, proceeded. . . to drive the wedge of Taft-Hartleyism deep into the ranks of the union membership, by adopting a resolution proposing to add a number of "Taft-Hartley" amendments to the union constitution. The proposed amendments are to be submitted to a 30-day referendum of the members.

Among other things, the resolution calls for an amendment requiring all members of the NMU to affirm, in writing, that they are not members of the Communist Party or of any other subversive totalitarian organization. The proposed amendment, almost word for word, was taken directly from the union-busting Taft-Hartley Act!

In addition to requiring all members to sign a yellow-dog affidavit, the resolution provides that membership in the NMU shall not be "retained" by any persons who "subscribe to, support, sponsor or otherwise follow a course of action consistent with and demonstrating membership in or adherence to the policy and program of the Communist Party or any other subversive or totalitarian doctrines."

ALL-INCLUSIVE

This provision is so sweeping and all-inclusive it can be applied to any critic, dissenter or opponent in the union. To eliminate any doubt on this score, the resolution includes on its proposed purge list those "who join together and are members of anti-union groups or factions within the NMU." Since all union bureaucrats identify themselves as "the union," to be anti-administration means, in their eyes, to be anti-union.

Under the pretext of combatting "totalitarianism" the Curran administration seeks to impose a totalitarian regime upon the NMU. To sweeten the bitter dish they have larded the resolution with references to "anti-union acts," "anti-union groups," etc. But the present constitution, widely heralded as the "most dem-

(Continued on page 2)

Truman Labor Bill Faces Amendments

The Democratic-controlled House Rules Committee sent the Truman-sponsored labor relations bill to the House on April 11 under an "open" rule which will permit amendments from the floor.

This will allow the Taft-Hartleyites of both major parties to stall repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act by piling on delaying amendments. It is also feared that enough amendments may be successfully attached to the bill to make it a virtual replica of the Taft-Hartley Law under a different name.

Debate on the labor relations law has been scheduled tentatively to begin on the House floor April 26.

KREMLIN STEPS UP ITS CAMPAIGN AGAINST TITO

By Ruth Johnson

In recent weeks the Kremlin has stepped up to fever pitch its war of nerves against the Yugoslav government. The answer to this campaign was given by Tito at the People's Front Congress in Belgrade, April 9, where he declared that "no intimidation from the West or East can divert" Yugoslavia from the independent course it has pursued since the split with the Cominform last year.

Taking note of the Stalinist propaganda barrage against his regime, Tito pointed out that in the course of March "press organs and main radio stations of the countries of people's democracies and the USSR made about 240 attacks of all kinds against our country."

RUTHLESS PRESSURE

Assailing the "fierceness and unscrupulous perfidy" of these attacks, he added that neither he nor the Yugoslav Communist Party would be provoked into stepping into a trap.

The stream of propaganda urging Yugoslavs to revolt against Tito, has been accompanied by physical assaults against Yugoslav militiamen on international trains entering Bulgaria; by secret trials of Yugoslavs in Sofia, on charges of "spying"; and by ruthless economic pressure aimed at destroying Tito's 5-year plan.

A front page article in the Yugoslav newspaper **Politika** on March 20, signed by former Minister of Foreign Affairs Stanoje Simich, likened the Cominform's economic methods to the Marshall Plan. He charged that its purpose was to keep Yugoslavia in the position of producer of cheap raw materials, for exploitation by the more industrialized of the Cominform countries.

Devastating facts about the extortionate prices charged Yugoslavia have been revealed since January of this year.

On April 2, the Belgrade trade union paper **Rad**, listed some of the terms demanded by Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary:

"377 tons of bauxite or 112 tons of barite or 17,050 kilograms (about 19 tons) of caustic soda or 60,042 kilograms (about 65 tons) of copper or lead, for one tractor."

Moreover, Cominform countries have delayed or failed to fulfill Yugoslav contracts for essential commodities even at these fantastic prices.

TRADE WITH WEST

This is why Tito's speech emphatically declared "of course" he would trade with the west, that it would be "a crime" not to. "They will give us machines and plants and we shall give them what we have and what we can

(Continued on page 2)

SWP Radio Speaker Upholds Socialized Medical System

YOUNGSTOWN, April 8 — The organization of the medical system for profit was attacked tonight by Harry Braverman, secretary of the Youngstown local of the Socialist Workers Party, in a half-hour radio program over WBBW here.

Replying to an attack on socialized medicine recently made at the Mahoning County Medical Society by a lawyer, Braverman exposed the grave inadequacies of the present medical system and explained the superiority of socialized public medicine.

Truman's proposed health insurance plan is not socialized or nationalized medicine, said Braverman. **Genuine socialized medicine "means the complete abolition of the profit system in medicine and the building of a medical structure similar to a free school system or post office. All doctors, dentists, nurses, hospital attendants, etc., work as salaried employes of the government and medical care is free to all who require it."**

THE TRUMAN PLAN

All the Truman plan would do is "spread the payments in an insurance fashion," not abolish the medical fee system. But the plain insurance function of Truman's plan has not prevented critics from shouting that it is the next step to "socialism." The American Medical Association, which attacks even the very limited Truman plan, has fought every single advance in medical aid for the people, from Workmen's Compensation Laws to cooperative hospitals and voluntary health insurance.

"The opposition to the health insurance plan is clear evidence of the controlling hand behind the AMA," said Braverman. "Under a system of health insurance, the income of the average doctor with average patients tends to rise. Not only is the health care of the patient insured, but the income of the doctor as well.

"On the other hand, the income of the wealthy practitioners and specialists who fatten on exhorbitant fees tends to decline. These top income physicians represent in the United States about five percent of the medical profession. This top layer controls the organized medical profession and uses that control in its own interests."

Next Week:

Special May Day Manifesto of the Socialist Workers Party. A fundamental review and forecast on the threat of another war, the menace of depression and the reactionary attack on civil rights in America.

* * *

The fight for the 8-hour-day when May Day began and the fight for the 30-hour-week today. The answer to lay-offs in the light of American history.

* * *

An interview with George Novack, Secretary of the Kutcher Civil Rights Committee, on his recent tour in behalf of the legless veteran who was unjustly fired from a government job.

* * *

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New War Moves Follow Signing of Atlantic Pact

More CIO, AFL Unions Extend Aid To James Kutcher

AFL and CIO unions are rallying in greater strength behind James Kutcher's campaign to regain the job he lost with the Veterans Administration because of the "thought-control" purge of government workers.

The Executive Board of the Chicago CIO Council, representing several hundred thousand industrial workers in Cook County, voted to back Kutcher's fight for justice. The CIO Council of Mahoning County, Ohio, passed a unanimous resolution protesting Kutcher's dismissal and condemning the procedure of labelling groups or individuals as "subversive" without public trial, hearing, or charges. The Council gave $25 to Kutcher's defense fund and will send letters urging all CIO locals in the Youngstown area to aid the work of the Kutcher Civil Rights Committee.

Following similar action by the Hennepin County CIO Council, the Duluth, Minnesota, CIO Council endorsed the Kutcher case.

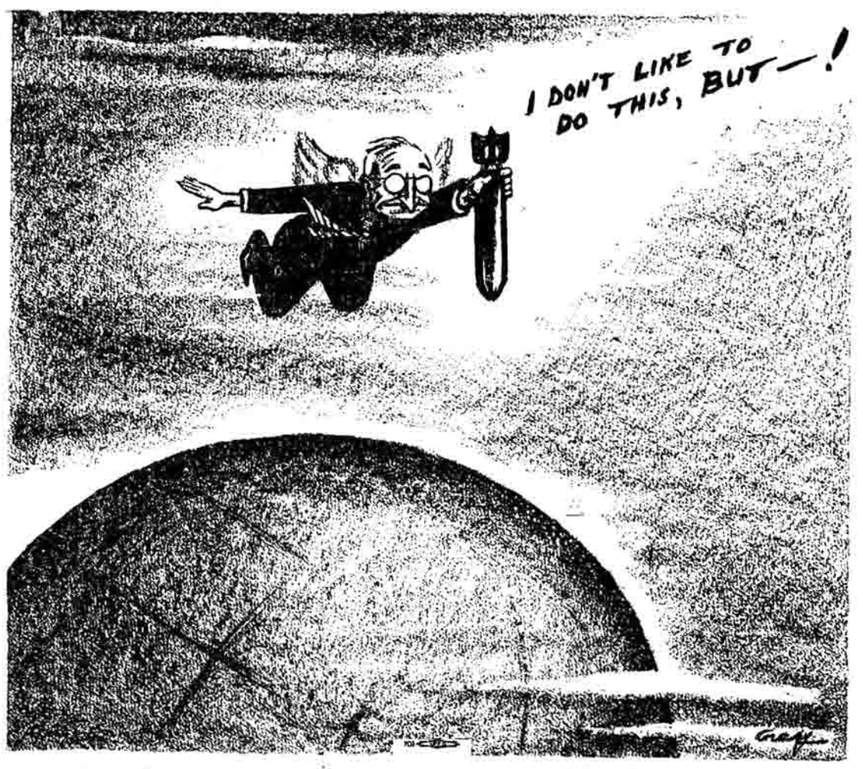
New AFL organizations coming to Kutcher's defense reach from the East Coast to the West. In New York City, Painters District Council 9, representing 9,000 building trades workers, contributed $25 in token of its official support of the legless veteran's fight for reinstatement. Two influential locals of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers, Knitgoods Workers Local 155 and Cloak & Suit Tailors Local 9, also helped Kutcher's defense fund.

Through James Gorman, International Secretary-Treasurer, the Amalgamated Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen with headquarters in Chicago became the first AFL International to assist Kutcher's defense. Typographical Union Local 202 of Seattle, Washington, is the first AFL union in that area and in the Typographical International to endorse the case.

Other supporting unions include AFL Amalgamated Lithographers Local 2, Buffalo, N. Y.; UE-CIO Local 455, Trenton, N. J. and UE Local 707, Cleveland; CIO United Rubber Workers Local 297, North Bergen, N. J.; CIO United Steelworkers Locals 1845 of Maywood, Calif. and Local 2715, Minneapolis; CIO United Furniture Workers Local 262, San Francisco.

James Kutcher has been invited to address the Pennsylvania State CIO Convention at Harrisburg on April 26. Decision on his appeal to the top Loyalty Review Board is expected to be handed down in several weeks.

Angel of Mercy



NEWS ITEM: **Truman says he "hopes and prays" it won't be necessary, "but if it has to be done. . . I wouldn't hesitate to make it [decision to drop atom bombs] again."**

Cleveland Strike Pickets Held on 2-Million Bond

By M. Toohey

CLEVELAND, April 11 — The strike of the CIO United Electrical Workers Local 735 at Fawick Airflex Company which began on March 7 was finally broken by judicial decree after an unprecedented barrage of strike breaking, treachery, and factional adventurism by all sections of the Cleveland labor leadership.

Fawick Company, a small Cleveland manufacturer of air brakes, following a familiar pattern, withdrew recognition from the UE on the grounds that the union had not complied with the non-communist affidavit provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law. The Stalinist leadership of Local 735 thereupon called a strike. The company then obtained a court injunction limiting the union to two pickets.

AFL REPUDIATED

A few days later the UAW-AFL appeared on the scene with a petition for an NLRB election. An election was held, with only the AFL appearing on the ballot. The AFL was decisively repudiated, getting only 50 votes out of 131. The AFL then started running carloads of scabs through the two-man picket line. The UE leaders countered by blockading the plant gate.

Police and deputies were mobilized and four skirmishes took place before the plant gates, resulting in the arrest and contempt proceedings against 12 strike leaders. The Fawick strikers fought with great heroism for the preservation of their union but the combination of AFL strikebreaking and official CIO indifference was too much for them.

A meeting of the Cleveland Federation of Labor held April 6 voted to support the activities of the UAW-AFL in breaking the Fawick strike. They justified their treachery on the grounds that there was no union at Fawick as the UE leaders had not signed the Taft-Hartley affidavits.

The daily press, which had been screaming for the blood of the strikers, got its wish fulfilled on April 8. **Twelve leaders and members of Local 735 were sentenced to a total of 440 days in jail, fines of $22,500 and held in bail of $2,060,000.**

JUDICIAL STRIKEBREAKING

The judge further ruled that they should be held in jail for further bond in case the union should be able to raise the two million, and that the strike was "judicially ended" by court decree and all picketing was banned at the plant. Scores of mounted police and deputies were at the plant gates the following morning to enforce the order.

At this writing the leaders of the strike are lodged in jail, the union is broken at Fawick and one of the darkest pages in the history of the Cleveland labor movement has been written. The responsibility for this defeat lies jointly on the shoulders of the

(Continued on page 4)

Truman Hurls Atomic Bomb Threat Again

By Art Preis

Truman threatens publicly to use the atomic bomb. Top militarists urge a "preventive" war. Congress moves to hand the Big Brass more billions than even Truman has asked. Washington's European partners demand immediate arms shipments. The White House calls for a new huge arms fund for its foreign allies. The capitalist press begins to run scare-heads about M-Day — Mobilization Day. And on Army Day the generals, in the words of a Scripps-Howard columnist, "let the oratory roll with the ominous thunder of war drums."

The first week of the North Atlantic Pact — greatest military alliance in world history — has seen the imperialist war drive speeded up to a frenzied pace. Washington, the generals, the headlines of the Big Business press, all sound a sinister note of immediacy and urgency in the campaign to drag America into another world war.

With cold and brutal cynicism, Truman on April 6 demonstratively asserted that not only had he no regrets for his decision to drop the atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, "but if it has to be done for the welfare of the United States. . . I wouldn't hesitate to make it [decision to drop atom bombs] again." There could be no mistaking the threat implicit in these words.

TROOPS TO EUROPE

In a major speech made at the invitation of the U. S. State Department, Army Chief of Staff Omar N. Bradley on April 5 told a veterans' organization meeting in New York that it would be necessary "to funnel the great strength of our New World to the ramparts of the Old, and thus challenge the enemy where he transgresses. At present, the balance of military power is centered in the United States, 3,000 miles from the heart of Europe." He spoke against reliance on the forces of "our friends" in Europe and of permitting imperialism's military power to be "deposited in reserves this side of the ocean."

Clearly, Gen. Bradley was demanding implementation of the Atlantic Pact with the immediate dispatch of American armed forces to Europe. As the April 15 U. S. News stated it: **"Gen. Omar Bradley now hints that it may be necessary to have a big U. S. Army in Europe, to man a defense line to keep Russia bottled up in the East."**

"PREVENTIVE" WAR

On April 9, in his Army Day speech, Lieut. Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, recent Ambassador to the USSR, enunciated the views of Washington and Wall Street that war between world imperialism and the Soviet Union is inevitable. The mutual trust and understanding which seemed to prevail" at the time of the founding of the United Nations, he said, "was transient. What we did not realize then was the barrier imposed by the fundamental differences between communism and democracy." **In short, the American ruling class holds, with Churchill, that a military showdown is unavoidable.**

No less a spokesman for Wall Street interests than Marriner S. Eccles, member and former chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, at a meeting of the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco on April 8 boldly and publicly voiced the doctrine of the "preventive" war.

"In any realistic appraisal of the outlook today we are bound to ask ourselves whether we are

(Continued on page 3)

Report on ADA Convention

By Farrell Dobbs

SHERMAN HOTEL, CHICAGO, April 10—Bitterly hostile toward reactionary Democrats who have united with the Republicans to block civil rights legislation and prevent repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, 578 rank and file delegates came to the second annual convention of the Americans for Democratic Action in this city looking for a program to smash the reactionary coalition.

The delegates, representing 30,000 members in 40 states, accepted without discussion the ADA leadership's declaration against formation of a third party "in the present period," and voted to campaign for the election of Fair-Deal Congressional candidates in 1950.

But they battled to correct vague policy statements that left the door open for horse trades on Fair-Deal legislation in order to obtain support from lukewarm Truman Democrats and liberal Republicans in the present Congress.

Two days of convention debate —sometimes stormy and often a parliamentary free-for-all — revealed much uneasiness over the Truman administration's friendliness toward Nazi and fascist elements abroad and stiff opposition to the unbridled attack on civil liberties in this country.

CONVENTION COMPOSITION

Among the delegates from the ADA chapters were 150 local union officers, committeemen, stewards and rank and file unionists, of whom 60 were AFL members, 50 CIO members and 40 members of railroad brotherhoods and independent unions.

There were 122 delegates from student chapters, a thin scattering from rural areas, a number of teachers, artists, writers, lawyers and other professional people. Very few Negroes were present.

A majority of the delegates were inexperienced young people, who hate Stalinism which they mistakenly identify with Marxism-Leninism, and honestly believe the fairy tale spread by their leaders that dependence on liberal capitalist politicians is the true road to social justice.

William Green, AFL president, James B. Carey, CIO secretary, Senators Hubert Humphrey, Paul Douglas and James Murray and Governor Chester Bowles addressed the convention. Apart from these ceremonial appearances, the high union officials and leading capitalist politicians remained in the background, leaving the convention in the hands of the secondary ADA leaders.

The Commission on Domestic Policy submitted a resolution supporting the rights of teachers to "join and participate freely in the political organizations of their choice." A minority report sought to deny academic freedom to "members of totalitarian political organizations."

CIVIL RIGHTS DEBATES

When a sponsor of the minority report, who happened to be in the chair at the time, abused the privilege of the chair in defending his position, the convention removed him and adopted the majority report upholding unrestricted academic freedom.

The convention then voted to defend the civil rights of Stalinist student organizations and went on record against legislation designed to outlaw any political party.

A motion to demand abolition of the present federal and state loyalty purges was defeated about 2 to 1. However, the convention called for the abolition of the House Un-American Committee and its counterparts in the states and asked that the loyalty purge be confined to "security-sensitive" areas.

The delegates also demanded that no organization or individual "be adjudged disloyal without a fair hearing, based on specific written charges and disclosed evidence, confrontation of accusers, a full opportunity to examine and cross-examine witnesses and adequate provision for appeal."

"MUST" OR "SHOULD"

A large minority fought hard to amend the domestic policy resolution to read that housing, health and other social legislation "must" prohibit racial discrimination. "If you don't stand fast on this issue," a Negro delegate warned, "ADA won't get the support of the Negroes." The fight was lost and the resolution

(Continued on Page 4)

ADA National Board To Support Kutcher

CHICAGO — The newly-elected National Board of Americans for Democratic Action has voted to support the fight for the reinstatement of James Kutcher, legless victim of the government "loyalty" purge.

Labor Union Trends

Two Million-Dollar Organizing Campaigns

By Bert Cochran

When the CIO was first formed in 1935 and announced that a million-dollar war chest had been set up to organize the steel industry, an electric shock went through the nation and the princes of industry began to know the agony of sleepless nights. Today, we have two million-dollar organizing campaigns supposedly in full progress in the department store field. And there is no excitement abroad in the land. The department store owners are quietly going about their business, nonchalant and unperturbed. The police departments in the metropolitan cities have not been put on the alert. All is quiet on the Potomac.

Can it be that the employers have seen the light and now intend to cooperate in extending to their workers good wages and decent working conditions? Or is it that the juice has gone out of once-militant unions and that their leaders no longer constitute a threat to the Big Business moguls? Judge for yourself:

The announcement of a million-dollar drive to organize the department store workers came right after the Portland CIO convention held last November. The CIO Executive Board without a by-your-leave took away the jurisdiction from the CIO clerks and handed it over to the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union. The big brains of this outfit likewise didn't bother consulting with any department store workers. They held a confab of their executive board, set up there and then an organizing committee (business efficiency, you know!) composed exclusively of Amalgamated officers and payroll hacks and informed the department store workers that they would not be permitted to form a union of their own but would be herded right into the Amalgamated itself.

THE AMALGAMATED'S OFFER

Sidney Hillman's heirs did not stop with this in making their inspiring bid to the underpaid and overworked department store employees. At about this same time, the Amalgamated international office made public its decision not to demand any wage increases in 1949.

What did the Amalgamated officials tell the department store workers that unionization was going to do for them specifically in the way of improved conditions? You don't know much about the Sidney Hillman brand of "labor statesmanship" if you ask a question like that. The Amalgamated officials wanted to win over the bosses first. They weren't so much interested in wages and working conditions. What was important to emphasize was that the Amalgamated was a "responsible" union, that it had everywhere established "harmonious" relations with the employers.

Under the circumstances, it is not too surprising that the masses didn't flock in serried ranks to the Amalgamated offices. As a matter of fact, despite its million-dollar kitty, the organizing drive up to the present has been a prize fizzle.

First, several tens of thousands of New York workers organized in the independent Department Store Employees Union were duly impressed — in reverse — with the Amalgamated propaganda and decided they had better stick with their own union, even if it was Stalinist-run. This is the outfit that pulled out of the CIO Wholesale and Retail Clerks when the Wolchok leadership tried to squeeze out the Stalinists by forcing them to sign the Taft-Hartley "yellow dog" affidavits. A number of the big department stores—Macy's, Loeser's, Gimbel's Saks', Norton's — seeing they couldn't bust up the union, decided to sign up with the independent group.

THE AFL CLERKS

That was only the first catastrophe to hit the Amalgamated campaign. Soon, the Wanamaker local and Oppenheim-Collins unit seceded from the CIO clerks and joined up with the AFL Retail Clerks Protective Association, which organization, evil tongues have it, is racketeer-ridden in many cities but, thank the Lord, has never been accused of being anything less than 150% American. The ACTU leaders of the Wanamaker local decided that since the goal was "responsible" unionism, the AFL distinctly had the edge, if not in class collaboration zeal, then at least in seniority.

The AFL Clerks have been in business since 1899 and have never up to now worked up any high blood pressure about organizing the department store workers, or, for that matter, any other group of workers. But, suddenly confronted with the possibility that thousands and thousands of potential dues-paying members might be corralled into a rival setup, they sprang to life and announced that they too were launching a million-dollar drive. (Two million-dollar campaigns!) As for pitching a "responsible" line of unionism, the Amalgamated was obviously up against some tough competition.

For example, Peter Formica, AFL Clerks Council President in Cleveland, in announcing the drive in that city, outlined to the public press his labor philosophy at the same time: "We do not intend to attack or malign the personality of the employer. We have no faith in the fiction that the employer is a malefactor. From experience, we know that most employers are honest, hard-working members of our society. We believe that through proper education they can be convinced as well as their employees that union organization benefits the worker, the employer and the community."

But despite their high-sounding talk and "million dollar drive," the AFL Clerks are small potatoes. Behind the real power in the AFL bid looms the sinister figure of Dave Beck, Vice President of the Teamsters international, who is gradually emerging as the boss of the Teamsters and one of the two-three most powerful bureaucrats in the whole labor movement.

DAVE BECK MOVES IN

Dave Beck first established himself as an important labor figure in Seattle. He took full advantage of the NRA and CIO upheavals to organize everything that wasn't nailed down. In addition to sewing up things in Seattle Beck branched out and perfected a strong over-the-road truck drivers organization in the 11-state West Coast area. Time magazine of Nov. 29, 1948 waxes lyrical in describing Beck's bailiwick: "His principality now spreads from Canada to Mexico from the Rockies to the Pacific. The unions encompassed by his Western Conference of Teamsters move virtually 'everything on wheels' in the eleven Western states. . . In Beck's domain 'teamsters' make beer, can fruit dehydrate vegetables, sell and service automobiles, pump gasoline, work in warehouses and clean suits."

Beck is very aggressive and ambitious. He doesn't smoke or drink and he works at his job. In the early days, he made frequent use of goon squads and gangster tactics to bring employers to terms. But no sooner were the unions consolidated and contracts signed, than Beck established most amicable relations with the employers and began disciplining the union membership, in the words of Time magazine, "with an iron hand." His strong-arm squads were now chiefly employed in jurisdictional raids on the CIO, in busting rival picket lines and strikes, and in building up his personal power.

A decade ago, the CIO broke the backbone of the employers' resistance to unionism. But if the bosses had to deal with unions, then the Dave Beck brand of unionism was the one they most prefered and found least obnoxious. It was this set of circumstances which made possible Beck's "servicing" the West Coast bosses with his "American" type of unionism — a unionism where the employers guaranteed the labor bureaucrat his dues-collection agency while he kept the "hired hands" cowed, docile and "disciplined."

BECK'S METHODS

When insurgent groups of workers threatened to disrupt this beautiful partnership, Beck would go into action with his strong-arm squads, black-jack artists, dynamiters and similar labor activists. West Coast militants can relate harrowing tales of Beck's exploits against the CIO lumber and sawmill workers in Portland and Tacoma, against the brewery and warehouse workers up and down the coast, and his most recent atrocity in breaking the strike of the Boeing aircraft workers and sending his lawyers into the courts to cooperate with the company in opposing an NLRB decision to reinstate discharged strikers.

It is entirely logical, therefore, for Time magazine to chortle over its "labor leader": "The great majority of employers think he is wonderful and applaud like happy seals when he speaks at the Chamber of Commerce. They have their reasons. Beck abhors strikes and stands for free enterprise with a capital E."

This is the vicious figure who has now stepped into the national labor picture, and among other projects, has decided to move in on the department store field. At the AFL Executive Council meeting in Miami, Florida, held early this year, Beck worked out an agreement involving the AFL Clerks, Building Service And Teamster unions to cooperate in the store drive. He has already swept into the Teamsters' maw the CIO Clerks and Warehouse locals of St. Louis and Toledo and organization campaigns have been started in a number of the big cities.

Ten years ago, the workers had the choice between the militant democratic unions of the CIO or the conservative bureaucracy-ridden unions of the AFL. Today, the CIO leaders are working overtime to efface the difference between the two. Dave Beck unionism? Or Sidney Hillman unionism? That's not much of a choice.

WOMEN UNDERSTAND THE NEED FOR PEACE

Will Big Business succeed in dragging the United States into another world war? Not if the deepest wishes of the women of America break through into the arena of political struggle. They know that another war with its bloodshed, death and atomic ruin can mean the end of everything we hold dear.

Leon Trotsky, who gave his life in the struggle to make our globe safe for mankind, understood what power women can wield when they decide the time has come for a basic change. Among these wage-earners and housewives, said Trotsky, will be found "inexhaustible stores of devotion, selflessness and readiness to sacrifice."

Trotsky spoke the truth. Among our strongest supporters are women. They stand courageously beside their husbands in the battle for peace through socialism despite the difficulties and hardships this often means. They tell their friends and neighbors about **The Militant** and how it fights for a world where children can grow up free from hunger and fear. They ask for contributions to help **The Militant** spread the truth. They try to widen the circle of **Militant** readers, knowing that each new subscription may mean another recruit in the fight for the socialist world of the future — a world of brotherhood, good living, happiness and boundless progress.

These are the pioneer women of today. Why not join their ranks? Start your subscription to **The Militant** now.

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Atlantic Pact Ceremonies

Secretary of State Dean Acheson is shown addressing delegates from the 11 European countries who signed the new war alliance along with the U. S. The agreement must now be ratified by the Senate.

MARITIME UNION HEADS DEMAND 'LOYALTY' OATH

(Continued from page 1)

ocratic" in existence, contains adequate provisions for defending the integrity of the union and punishing those guilty of overt violations.

The existing constitution was largely rewritten by the Curran group through extensive revisions presented to and adopted by the 1947 convention. The bulk of the revisions sponsored by the Rank and File Caucus, which was then organizing to oust the Stalinists from control, were devised to strengthen and extend the democratic rights of the membership. Among the constitutional amendments then sponsored by the Curran group was one which declared:

"The National Maritime Union shall strive to completely eliminate and outlaw Jim Crowism, anti-Semitism and all forms of discrimination against racial, religious, national or political minorities."

This pledge was incorporated and repeated over and over again in the statements issued by the Rank and File Caucus. It was point number one in the six point program distributed over the signature of Joseph Curran. The demand for democratic reforms attracted the support of large sections of the union repelled by the bureaucratic practices of the Stalinist officialdom.

WORST IN CIO HISTORY

Now, all the promises and pledges to preserve and extend the democratic rights of the membership are cynically jettisoned by the proposal to institute a regime of police unionism unheard of in the CIO since its very inception.

Thought-control, loyalty oaths, yellow-dog affidavits and witch-hunts are reactionary concepts completely alien to the spirit and practice of working class democracy. They are devices borrowed from the arsenal of the most rabid union-haters and labor-baiters in the country. Those who seek to introduce into the unions devices which are the very essence of the Taft-Hartley creed cannot be trusted to lead the fight against Taft-Hartleyism.

On the contrary, the Council proposals can only serve to embolden and encourage the Taft-Hartleyites to intensify their drive to cut the guts out of the organized labor movement.

Meeting "in the shadow of Taft-Hartley," the NMU National Council delivered a body blow to the unity of the organization, thereby weakening the fight to preserve the hiring hall, diverting the energy of the ranks from the struggle to win their contract demands and making a mockery of the coming September convention.

Auto Workers Fight Speedup In Detroit

DETROIT, April 11 — The flurry of strikes against the increasing speedup in auto plants here continues. Charging the Ford Co. with speedup, the general council of the giant Ford River Rouge Local 600 ordered a strike vote among its 60,000 members for April 16. Tommie Thompson, Local 600 president, stated: "Present Ford time-study technic is designed to increase production without regard to the total effect upon the workers involved."

WALKOUT IN PROTEST

The Briggs Mack Plant, Local 212, was hit by a walkout in protest of the docking of 200 workers during a former dispute. The Briggs management was quick to throw the Local 212 Reutherite leadership a bailing bucket, attributing the walkout to "a group in the trim department trying to discredit the present union organization."

At Briggs Local 742, producer of Packard bodies, a general walkout occurred when men in the trim shop refused to work overtime while 1500 men were still laid off. The committeeman leading the action was fired. The members were ordered back to work by the International officers. Reinstatement of the discharged committeeman is awaiting negotiation.

The International UAW has in each case followed its established policy of sending the striking workers back to their jobs without a settlement. For this cowardly policy the auto workers are paying heavily in terms of increased production standards and fired workers.

KREMLIN STEPS UP ITS RABID CAMPAIGN AGAINST YUGOSLAVS

(Continued from Page 1)

give, money for goods and vice-versa. If they are willing to trade with us on that basis, it is all right. If not," he added, "they cannot expect anything from us."

Contracts with American firms for capital construction and heavy industrial equipment, much of it to expand Yugoslavia's steel industry, are under way. The N. Y. Times, one day after Tito's speech, predicted that U. S. trade with Yugoslavia will double this year.

"From the export side," the Times said, "it is understood that the State Department now shows a 'sympathetic' attitude toward granting export licenses," and that "possible loans to Yugoslavia are also rumored."

Britain is in agreement. Minister of State Hector McNeill told the House of Commons on March 23 that "no embarrassments should be placed in Yugoslavia's path" so far as trade negotiations are concerned.

Apparently the imperialist powers do not intend to apply any immediate political pressure on the Tito regime. For the time being, they are content to help Tito remain in power. They have their eyes on the Cominform's latest maneuver against Tito, the proclamation of a "Macedonian National Liberation Front."

MACEDONIA ISSUE

As planned by the Cominform, a "fine Macedonia" pledging allegiance to Stalin would be carved out of Macedonian areas of Yugoslavia, Greece and Bulgaria. Such a development might, as Tito warned and the imperialists hope, lead to war in the Balkans and be the imperialists' excuse for intervention against the Soviet Union.

In any event, as long as Tito survives, the rifts in the Kremlin's periphery states will grow. As the Political Committee of the Socialist Workers Party pointed out last August, "Far more than Yugoslavia itself is involved here. The Yugoslav events are only a component part of the unfolding international crisis of Stalinism."

Since that time, a wave of purges has hit the Communist Parties of Eastern Europe. Important leaders have been accused of "Tito-ism" and "national deviations" for seeking a measure of independence from Moscow's economic and political squeeze.

PURGE CONTINUING

As the Times points out, the purge victims "including Wladislaw Gomulka of Poland, Lucretiu Patrascanu of Rumania and Laszlo Rajk of Hungary — developed too much 'nationalist' independence as underground leaders to be trusted by Moscow."

Most famous of the ousted leaders was Markos, leader of the Greek guerrilla forces. He was charged with "Tito-ism" and is reported to have been spirited off to Moscow.

In Albania, 14 Communist Party members are now on trial, charged with being "agents in the service of the Yugoslav Trotskyists." They are accused of trying to rescue Koci Xoxe, former secretary of the Albanian CP, who was ousted and arrested shortly after the Tito-Cominform split.

Now the Bulgarian CP leader Traicho Kostov, a Central Committee member who headed the resistance movement during the war, has also been placed on trial for "an insincere and unfriendly policy regarding the Soviet Union," "nationalist deviations" and "gross political and party errors."

These will not be the last of victims; the nature of the Soviet bureaucracy itself, and its aims in the buffer countries, must cause increasing rifts.

The Kremlin's main aim in the satellite countries is to exploit their resources in order to try to solve the difficulties of the Russian economy. It can carry out this plunder program only by keeping the Communist Parties completely subservient to its will. But the desperate needs of the economy of their own states, forces resistance by those CP leaders whose base is among the popular masses.

Fund Campaign Passes Quarter Mark of Quota

By Reba Aubrey
Campaign Manager

With the $7,500 Militant Fund at the one-third mark, the national percentage is lagging 8% behind schedule. With only four weeks to go our "Scoreboard" shows collections have reached 25% of the quotas. The "Scoreboard" should show 33%.

Ten of the Socialist Workers Party branches, however, are right on schedule, with Morgantown in the lead. The comrades of this branch rushed in their $30 payment to boost them to first place with 120%.

Other branches are using the scientific method of reaching their goals — regular pacing which fulfills a certain percentage of their quota each week. This is the method that places **Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Newark, New Haven, Baltimore, San Francisco-Oakland, Reading and New York,** just where they should be at this moment — or a little bit ahead.

A little extra spurt during the week by those branches in the 20% category will put them on schedule before the next "Scoreboard."

The branches which have not yet reached the 20% column — and especially those who still remain in the zero column — should take a hint from the regular pacers. A little effort now and less scrambling at the finish.

* * *

Not only branches of the Socialist Workers Party, but also friends of **The Militant** are pitching in to make sure that the Fund drive reaches 100%. **R. M.** of **Milwaukee**, an "old Socialist and fine comrade, donated $2 for the **Militant Fund.**" **W. B.** of **Portland, Oregon**, contributed $8.80.

* * *

Janice M. of **New York Local** expressed our thought when she said: "It is a constant inspiration to see how the comrades and friends of the paper take the needs of our press right in stride."

SCOREBOARD FOR MILITANT FUND

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
Morgantown	$ 25	$ 30	120
Seattle	50	50	100
Philadelphia	400	211	53
Pittsburgh	100	45	45
Newark	250	110	44
New Haven	35	15	43
Baltimore	100	40	40
San Francisco-Oakland	500	194	39
Reading	50	17	34
New York	2,000	655	33
Flint	200	60	30
Buffalo	500	134	27
Chicago	250	68	27
Youngstown	300	80	27
St. Paul	200	55	28
Worcester	25	5	20
Cleveland	150	22	15
Lynn	50	6	12
St. Louis	50	6	12
Minneapolis	400	40	10
Detroit	500	36	7
Milwaukee	150	2	1
Akron	200	0	0
Allentown	25	0	0
Boston	150	0	0
Los Angeles	600	0	0
New Britain	50	0	0
Rochester	25	0	0
Toledo	50	0	0
General	115	8	7
Total through April 12	7,500	1,889	25

THE MILITANT ARMY

New Haven Reports Encouraging Sale At Student Debate

Two comrades in **New Haven**, Conn., met with encouraging results selling **The Militant** and **Fourth International**, the monthly magazine of American Trotskyism, at a "political student debate on the Taft-Hartley law," reports Literature Agent N. S. "Here amid rain drops the students passed us by with only a few buying **The Militant.** Soon those who went in came back out to buy two or three copies. When we ran out of new and about five past issues on hand, we pushed the FI. We had only six copies with us, and though those boys don't have much money, they looked at the titles of the articles and we didn't have to sales talk them. We sold out completely!" As a result of this distribution, one student has already sought further information about the Socialist Workers Party. "Things looking slightly rosy," concludes **N. S.**

George S. of **Bayport, N. Y.**, on renewing his subscription, wrote us, "Never before has your fighting paper of the working class been more needed. May the ranks of your subscribers continue to swell and with them the ranks of socialism."

J. G. B. of **Alberta, Canada**, enclosed a $10 bill upon renewing his combined subscription to **The Militant and Fourth International.** "The balance," he explains, "is a donation toward both publications." It's loyal, self-sacrificing supporters like J .G. B. who make it possible for our press to appear regularly throughout the year.

L. B. Courts of **Sharonville**, Ohio, ordered five extra copies of **The Militant.** "I never read anything better," he says.

A Railroader of Minnesota sent in for 150 extra copies of the April 4 issue containing the Socialist Workers Party call for united action in defense of civil liberties. He thinks the Jehovah's Witnesses are inconsistent but "will support and defend their civil right to refuse military service the same as I will defend the rights of Socialists and all others to refuse to collaborate with the war makers."

St. Louis is working hard to **increase** circulation of **The Militant.** Through the efforts of **D. C.**, two more newsstands are taking small bundles.

Literature Agent **F. R.** of **West Virginia** writes: "Most of us are very pleased with **The Militant.** Keep up the fine work. We're going to make a special effort to start sending some local articles by miners." The West Virginia comrades increased their regular bundle order by another five copies.

Worcester, Mass., also increased its bundle by five more copies. "The last issue of both the paper and magazine were exceptionally interesting," **P.** and **J.** declare. "We took several papers and **FIs** out to a member in a neighboring town whose sub had expired some time ago. He said he sat up till 2 a.m. reading them and is passing them along to friends in the plant."

Dan Roberts of **Seattle** reports, "We are now discussing plans for a drive on selling the press after May Day to make up for neglect in the past months." Comrade Roberts thinks that "the press is very good. All the comrades are pleased with the quality of **The Militant** articles. However, I think they tend to be too long, even with our emphasis on explaining to the vanguard. Especially the articles analyzing the news. Two or three points in one article explained concisely makes for better reading. And additional points dealing with the same topic can be treated in separate articles."

Literature Agent **G. H.** of **Milwaukee** tells us that "Favorable comment has been received on the heads you are using on the sub blank in **The Militant**; the LAID OFF and the atom bomb explosion picture heads are eye-catching."

Fellow-Victim

The $1,000 check which Anna Louise Strong donated for the defense of the 12 Stalinist leaders, was endorsed as follows: "For the American Communists who are getting as raw a deal from American justice as I got from the USSR. From a fellow-victim of the cold war — Anna Louise Strong." The Stalinists rejected the donation.

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TROTSKY

"In all countries the same historic laws operate, the laws of capitalist decline. If the means of production remain in the hands of a small number of capitalists, there is no way out for society. It is condemned to go from crisis to crisis, from need to misery, from bad to worse. In the various countries the decrepitude and disintegration of capitalism are expressed in diverse forms and at unequal rhythms. But the basic features of the process are the same everywhere. The bourgeoisie is leading its society to complete bankruptcy. It is capable of assuring the people neither bread nor peace. This is precisely why it cannot any longer tolerate the democratic order. It is forced to smash the workers by the use of physical violence."

— Leon Trotsky, Whither France, 1934.

LENIN

New Attacks on Democratic Rights

The blitz against democratic and civil rights grows more ferocious. In every sphere — politics, unionism, education, journalism, religion — the witch-hunt daily claims new victims. New attacks on civil liberties and freedom of thought just in the past week or two have been so numerous that we are hard pressed for space to report them in detail. We here list a few cases.

"Talk or rot in jail" sentences have been imposed on six persons in Los Angeles who refused on constitutional grounds to answer questions before a federal grand jury investigating "communism." They were sentenced to jail INDEFINITELY until they answer to the satisfaction of the federal judge who fixed sentence. They are now out on bail pending appeal.

In Cleveland, 12 members of the CIO United Electrical Workers were thrown in jail under more than TWO MILLION DOLLARS bond for alleged "contempt" against an anti-picketing injunction of a local judge.

Governor Chester Bowles of Connecticut was confronted by the demand of Catholic Action Committee and Knights of Columbus groups that he withdraw as a sponsor of a dinner forum held in New York City last week by *The Nation*, the country's oldest liberal weekly.

British Laborite leader Harold J. Laski, who is lecturing in this country under the auspices of the CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers, was barred last week from speaking in a public school hall by the Cambridge, Mass., School Committee, after Mayor Michael J. Neville attacked him as "pro-Communist, anti-Catholic and anti-religious." Laski, who is anti-communist, previously had two scheduled lectures cancelled by trustees of the University of California.

The Karl Marx Society, a student organization, was simultaneously suspended last week from three New York City college campuses, Brooklyn College, Hunter College and Columbia University. Several student participants were given brief suspensions and one was suspended for the rest of the term at Brooklyn College simply for speaking at an "unauthorized" meeting to protest this attack on the students' organization.

The witch-hunt reached out last week to silence the editor of the *N. Y. Post-Home News*, considered the leading liberal newspaper in the city. T. O. Thackrey was forced to resign as editor and publisher because, as he said, "I was given the choice of supporting the Atlantic Pact or resigning."

Any one of these cases would be cause for alarm. Take them together and add them to the hundreds of other attacks on democratic rights — the moves to ban minority political parties, the Jim-Crow drive on the Negro people, the government "loyalty" purge, etc. — and we have the greatest assault on civil rights in American history. It demands that all true defenders of civil liberties join forces in a common defense front before free speech and free thought are strangled.

Germany and the 'Democratic' Imperialists

The "democratic" governments of the United States, Britain and France have finally told their native collaborators in Western Germany just what sort of "democratic federal republic" they must set up. Western Germany is to remain much in the same condition as it is today, except for a fraudulent "constitutional" facade.

In place of the incumbent military governments, the supreme power is to be wielded by three civilian Allied High Commissioners, each with a complete veto power. The occupying forces are to remain permanently, with the sanction of the "new constitution."

Western Germany will have no say whatever over either foreign policy or foreign trade. Complete control must remain here with the occupying powers. The same thing applies to "scientific research." In brief, Western Germany will not be accorded even the status of a puppet state.

As a matter of fact, the proposed regime, along with the corresponding new "constitution" for Western Germany, would differ only in minor details from colonial regimes which Britain and other imperialist powers have maintained for generations in Far Eastern countries and elsewhere.

This is too raw for even the German Social Democrats to swallow. These rascals may not themselves be averse to it; what they fear is that their followers will desert them if they expose themselves too openly as compliant tools of the ruthless conquerors. In any case, their opposition has, for the time being, brought to a standstill the work of the gathering at Bonn which has been drafting the constitution for this "new democracy."

Whatever may be the outcome of the cynical farce that is now being played in Western Germany, the German people will gain from it neither a measure of democracy nor any significant relaxation of their oppressed condition.

They can find their road to salvation only if they are left free to decide for themselves what kind of government and social order they wish to set up.

And the precondition for this free and untrammelled choice is the removal from German soil of all foreign troops — not only the occupation troops in the Bizone and French zone, but also the Kremlin's armies in Eastern Germany. They must all get out and stay out of Germany.

None of the occupying powers will withdraw unless there is an overwhelming mass demand for it. That is an additional reason why the workers in this country should back the demand that American troops be withdrawn immediately.

Walter White Protests Article in 'Militant'

NAACP Secretary Denies Apologizing To Senator McGrath

Gentlemen:

I trust I am not in error in assuming that The Militant would not wilfully distort the truth to fit its political convictions. Yet it appears that you have done just that in your editorial of April 4 entitled, "Walter White Apologizes."

The accounts of the disagreement between Senator J. Howard McGrath and myself were published in the New York dailies, notably in **The Sun.** The best and fullest account appeared in the **Washington Post.** The material which appeared in weekly papers was a re-hash of the daily accounts.

Despite the fact that news accounts were available to you from New York papers, and that I maintain an office here where I could be reached easily, at no time did your publication attempt to interview me. This is a bad enough journalistic practice when it involves merely a news story, but to proceed to write an editorial without diligent search for facts is inexcusable and argues that you have a case to make rather than an interpretation to present.

First, I did not apologize to Senator McGrath. My letter to him quoted the text of a statement I had drafted for the press which he had glanced at hurriedly. He said what he did on the basis of his hurried glance. His own statement to the press was an admission that he had misread a phrase or a line. He wrote me expressing regret at the incident and that letter was released to the press.

Second, the letter to NAACP branches about the Democratic party and Senator McGrath was not a confidential communication, but was read openly in many public meetings throughout the country. It was not labeled "confidential" and at no time was considered so. Our feelings about the Democrats and the filibuster was expressed many times during the fight in the daily and weekly press and there is, therefore, no basis for your assertion that "White . . . kept these charges confidential during the filibuster fight." Best testimony to the non-secret and stringent comments on the Democrats came from Senator McGrath himself who was quoted as saying, "Walter often rides his friends harder than his enemies."

Third, never at any time was it asserted by anyone that Senator McGrath had "misinterpreted the remarks in the confidential letter." The letter was in plain language, not subject to misinterpretation. At no time have we apologized for anything in it.

The politicians in Washington have many faults. The so-called capitalist press has its faults. Your editorial reveals that you can match them any day in the week.

Ever sincerely,
WALTER WHITE
Secretary, NAACP
April 8, 1949

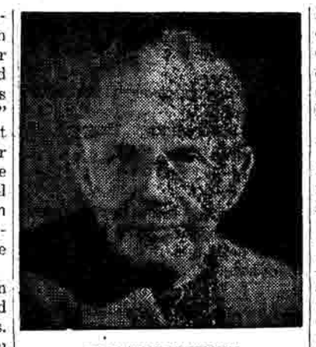
Answer to Walter White's Complaint By Albert Parker

My article to which Walter White objects was not an editorial but a signed column. As a columnist himself, White knows quite well that it is impossible to check every statement or quotation printed in the press. He knows also that it is an accepted journalistic practice to use such material, especially if the people quoted issue no denial or correction after its publication.

My column began by giving the source of the story about the "heated argument" between White and McGrath — a Washington dispatch printed in the March 25 Kansas City **Call,** a Negro weekly which stands politically much closer to the NAACP leadership than it does to **The Militant.** Subsequent issues of that paper carried no complaint or denial from White.

I regret to confess that I don't read the **N. Y. Sun** and the **Washington Post** and that I learned of the incident only through the **Call,** from which all the information reported in my April 4 column was taken. Whatever factual mistakes my column may have contained were derived from the **Call** dispatch, and not from any desire to distort the truth to fit my political convictions.

The Call reported that McGrath had used "strong language"



WALTER WHITE

on White and "told him off" after he got hold of a letter by White to NAACP branch presidents, denouncing the policy of McGrath and other Democratic leaders on the filibuster issue. The **Call** dispatch designated this letter as "confidential." At **The Militant's** request, White has supplied us with a copy of this letter, dated Feb. 21. He is completely correct when he says it was not marked confidential.

From this, however, White concludes there is no basis for my assertion that he kept the charges in this letter confidential. Now I never claimed that the NAACP did not complain about the way the Democrats were stalling on their promises. In fact, I quoted one such complaint by White in the Feb. 7 **Militant,** and our Feb. 28 issue reported another at some length. But neither these nor any of the other NAACP press releases this year compare with the Feb. 21 letter in sharpness and detailed factual material about the double-dealing of McGrath and other Democratic leaders. While the letter was not marked confidential, neither was it released to the press. I see no reason therefore for withdrawing my charge that White did a disservice to the fight against the filibuster by not releasing to the press the full information about Democratic duplicity, so important for everyone to know about.

White denies that he apologized to McGrath, explaining that McGrath misunderstood a letter White sent him after their argument which had contained the text of a press release by White. The **Militant** asked White for a copy of this letter so that we could confirm his explanation. Instead of the letter, White supplied us only with the press release which had formed part of his letter.

Although I still have only White's word about the nature of his letter which McGrath mistook for an apology, I am willing to accept White's word rather than McGrath's. The same goes for White's denial that in this letter he tried to mollify McGrath by saying McGrath must have misinterpreted the remarks in the "confidential" letter, although the **Call** dispatch quoted McGrath to this effect.

White evidently feels, as I did when I read the **Call** dispatch, that he would be demeaning himself by an apology to the politicians who sold the civil rights program down the river. But is it less demeaning for the leader of the largest Negro organization in the country to collaborate and consort with such politicians, as White has done in the past and intends to continue doing in the future?

Granted that the **Call** dispatch was erroneous, the fact still remains that White has not broken with the Democratic machine, one of the chief instruments for the oppression of the Negro people. The main point of my April 4 column was that such behavior is cowardly and cringing and responsible in great part for the defeats we have suffered in the civil rights fight. I see nothing in White's letter that would justify me in altering this conclusion.

Albert Parker

KUTCHER CORRECTS STORY OF CALIFORNIA LABOR COLUMNIST

Editor:

The following is a copy of a letter I have sent to John M. Lee, labor columnist of the **California Eagle,** a Negro weekly which supported the Wallaceites in the last election:

Dear Mr. Lee:

I have just read your March 31 column which discusses my dismissal from government employ and concludes: "The terror is spreading and the best way to keep it from touching us is to go out and meet it by fighting to get the soldier's job back and for his right to choose his own political party."

I want to thank you for this expression of support. I regard it as another sign of the growing realization that all sincere defenders of democratic rights must unite to put an end to all forms of thought-control. At the same time I would like to call your attention to a number of errors in your article. In discussing my case, you wrote:

"It becomes clearer now how the Socialist Workers Party has devoted most of its time to baiting the Communists. They have been playing a role that was clearly cut out for them by the police-state designers. Evidently they are no longer useful, and henceforth shall be on the hunted end of the game. One can hardly linger, for any length of time, in sadness over the plight of the Socialist Workers. They chose the road on which they must henceforth travel. . . In due time, the Socialist Workers will find themselves on the subversive lists. They'll get the old routine — loyalty checks, inquisitions and jail, and they won't like it any better than do other Americans who have been subjected to the same terrorizing treatment."

You evidently are not aware of the fact that the Socialist Workers Party is already on the subversive list — and has been since the Attorney General's original blacklist was issued in November 1947. There is no need for you to predict that the SWP will be subjected to persecution. That has been happening all along.

You evidently are not aware of the fact that the SWP was the first to be prosecuted under the Smith Gag Act — over seven years before the Communist Party was brought to trial under this Hitler-like law — in the famous Minneapolis Trial of 1941, where 18 SWP leaders were sent to prison for advocating revolutionary Marxist doctrines. At that time the CP was working hand-in-glove with the administration in Washington, opposing strikes and advising the Negro people to subordinate the fight against Jim Crow to support of the war. The CP leaders sabotaged defense of the SWP at that trial, just as they are now sabotaging my defense.

You evidently are not aware of the fact that despite our political differences, the SWP defends the 11 CP leaders now on trial in New York and the CP members who are being subjected to prison for "contempt" in your own city. In the same spirit of labor solidarity, we are trying to mobilize the labor movement to stop these persecutions, although the CP's reactionary behavior toward other victims of the witch-hunt makes this more difficult to achieve.

I urge you to study the literature of the SWP (available in Los Angeles at Room 325, 124 West 6th St.). If you do, you will find for yourself that our freely-expressed differences with the Communist Party have never led us to serve the cause of reaction in any way or at any time.

Sincerely,
James Kutcher

Dilemma of the Socialist Party

By George Breitman

The Socialist Party got a strong shot in the arm from Norman Thomas' election campaign last year when the capitalist press and radio, mainly out of hostility to the Henry Wallace candidacy, afforded the SP extremely favorable opportunities for spreading its propaganda. But six months after the election, the SP is in the weakest position of its entire history.

Plainest of all is the financial crisis that has struck its press. In December its weekly paper, the **Socialist Call,** was cut from eight tabloid pages to four, and an emergency appeal was made for the collection of $10,000 by Christmas to guarantee its survival.

By Christmas less than half this sum had been collected. It was not until the middle of March that the fund campaign was terminated, with about $9,300 donated. The **Call** returned to eight tabloid pages in the middle of February, but a month later announced that for an indefinite period it would shift to publication every two weeks instead of weekly.

MORE FUNDAMENTAL

Financial difficulties are the rule, rather than the exception, for small papers that get little or no income from advertising. But the severity of the SP's difficulties and its failure to arouse sufficient support from its own members to maintain the **Call** on a weekly basis, point to something more fundamental—a political crisis that places a question mark over the very future of the organization. This conclusion is borne out by plenty of additional evidence.

The problem facing the SP, and being debated by its members and sympathizers, is this: Should they try to continue the organization as an independent force (by which they mean running their own candidates every two or four years)? Or should they become a left wing of the left wing of the Democratic Party (through the ADA, Liberal Party, etc.)?

Independent election campaigns have a useful purpose even for small groups because they offer avenues for spreading socialist propaganda. But are independent campaigns worth all the time and bother for a group like the SP, whose brand of "socialism" is hardly distinguishable from the New Deal reform measures advocated by the Democratic Party left wing? Wouldn't the members of the SP be able to exert greater influence if they gave up such unrewarding activity and got into the main stream of reformism?

Such are the questions being asked of the SP by its best friends. One of these, Daniel Bell, appeals in the January **Modern Review** for "a formal statement by the Socialist Party forsaking electoral activity on a national scale. It would free many of its own people [to enter the Democratic Party] and give them freer play to be effective. . . The demise of the Socialist Party as an electoral party . . . is not a tragic event, but a clearing of the ground." **The SP leaders are as hard put to find satisfactory answers to such appeals as they are to finding resources to maintain their press on a minimum basis.**

PREPARING CHANGE

Last December the SP National Executive Committee voted to open up an internal discussion, re-examining "the Socialist role, particularly in our relations with those who consider themselves socialist but are not willing to identify themselves with us." They also voted in favor of establishing an "American Socialist Center," which would coordinate the activities of the SP, Social Democratic Federation and similar groups; to continue their efforts to achieve organic unity with the SDF; and to hold a national conference around Decoration Day "to discuss future policies and activities."

The NEC held another meeting at the beginning of April in Detroit. According to the **Call's** report, it has not yet made up its mind about which road to take. "Its major discussions centered on the long term political goals of the Party. . . Without committing itself to any one long term role, the National Executive Committee adopted a resolution . . . which is part of the Socialist Party's growing emphasis on fundamental program and ideas in contrast to short-term political electoral action."

Despite the deliberately foggy language in which this report couches the SP's dilemma, it is apparent that the NEC is leaning in the direction of a change in its traditional policy. The resolution, adopted unanimously, warns the labor movement to work out its own program, not to accept its present alliance with the Democratic Party as permanent, and to develop its own party as British labor did.

UNITY WITH SDF

The resolution itself gives no hint about what the members of the SP are to do about participation in labor's alliance with the Democrats. But in a separate motion, "the Committee reaffirmed the right of Socialists to work actively in the Americans for Democratic Action, despite that organization's political weakness." And the ADA, of course, is a part of the alliance of the Democrats and the labor leaders.

To permit further "re-examination" by the members, the NEC postponed the national conference originally scheduled around Decoration Day. It also approved the plans for a Socialist Center (worked out) by the unity committees of the SDF and SP; all that is needed now is the "official endorsement of the SDF."

Every day makes it clearer that there are no principled differences to keep the two wings of American Social Democracy apart any longer. The main obstacles to reunification were the SP tradition of running its own candidates (now being "re-examined") and the remnants of pacifist phraseology that crop up occasionally in Thomas' utterances (becoming more and more infrequent as the SP embraces the State Department's foreign policy with increasing fervor).

In this connection, the Call reports that "the controversial issue of the North Atlantic Pact was not resolved" at the NEC meeting in Detroit. But the dispute is only over unconditional as against critical support of the Pact, with no one on the NEC supporting a socialist opposition to the war program. A sub-committee headed by Maynard Krueger was appointed to draft a position which will be voted on by mail.

ONE COUNTER-FACTOR

The SP leaders see greener pastures beckoning as they engage in their "re-examination." Their 1948 campaign was "disappointing;" equally disappointing is the prospect of trying to hold the organization together — let alone to build it. Why shouldn't they be "realistic" especially when there are soft and well-paid jobs to be had in the trade union apparatus of the Reuthers and Dubinskys, and careers in the State Department as salesmen for the Marshall Plan abroad?

The outcome of this crisis could be predicted with certainty, except for one factor: Virtually none of the SP members who get attractive offers of soft berths considers it worthwhile to go through the motions of discussing and trying to convince the other members of the need to fold up the SP; they just accept the offer and either quit the SP or drop into complete inactivity.

This process, which has been going on without interruption since the mid-30's, steadily drains the SP of its most blatantly opportunist and careerist elements, and leaves open the possibility that the SP may decide for a while longer to retain its old policy. But if it does, there can be no doubt that it will drag on in a state of continued decline, beset by the demoralization that overcomes old people who realize that they are living on purely out of inertia.

NEW WAR MOVES FOLLOW PACTS

(Continued from Page 1)

not relatively better prepared now—or could soon become better prepared — to enforce a settlement than we will be five years, or ten years from now." Eccles added that Washington should issue an ultimatum to the Kremlin to accept the capitalist powers' terms, or else—.

Simultaneous with these bellicose proclamations, Congress and the administration are stepping up all practical measures to put the U. S. on a war footing. The House Appropriations Committee on April 9 approved a military budget for 1950 of nearly a billion dollars more than the $15 billion armed forces budget submitted by Truman — the greatest peacetime military budget in history. And for every dollar Congress adds to war spending, it will strip two from the proposed social reform measures.

Furthermore, Truman last week announced that he would seek additional funds — now estimated at close to two billion dollars for the first year — for arming the Pact signatories.

Without waiting for formal approval of the Atlantic Pact by the U. S. Senate, eight of the Pact signatories immediately raised a clamor for a big down-payment on the guns, tanks, planes and bombs promised by American imperialism, and Secretary of State Dean Acheson gave them assurance of its speedy fulfillment. Secretary of the Army Kenneth C. Royall told the House Appropriations Committee on April 7 that "leaders of several Western European countries" have asked the U. S. to greatly increase the number of American troops on the European continent. And Royall defended this request.

The drive to prepare American public opinion for a war that may come at any day and any hour is being carried directly to the American working class in the industrial centers. A double-bannered scare-head on the front page of the April 3 **Pittsburgh Press** proclaimed:

"District Organized for Action Instantly If U. S. Goes to War"

"Inside Story of M-Day For Pittsburgh Reveals Mobilization Details"

Almost an entire page of this leading Pittsburgh paper is devoted to an appeal to the workers in the nation's greatest steel center to get ready for "M-Day" — "it could happen next month or next year — the United States may mobilize to fight a third World War." In elaborate detail — "after some deletions . . . by the Office of Public Information, National Military Establishment" — this article describes how a military dictatorship will be established over Pittsburgh and the whole steel area within minutes after the next war begins.

Plant managers, bank presidents, lawyers, industrial engineers — the whole managing apparatus of the capitalist class — will suddenly blossom forth in their already assigned roles as military officers. All plants and other facilities will be organized as military units, "The 391st Engineer Power Plant Maintenance Detachment . . . the 977th Quartermaster Petroleum Products Laboratory . . . the 717th Railroad Operating Battalion," etc.

The workers of Pittsburgh — and presumably all other industrial centers — will be placed under military rule as though in the front-lines. This iron military dictatorship will be administered by employers and their agents in army officers' uniforms. In fact, the article lists these officers by name and post.

Thus, the American imperialists are moving ever more rapidly toward dictatorship and war. They have little hope for peace and are not seeking it. Let the American workers take warning!

Visit your local headquarters of the

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

AKRON — 4 So. Howard St., 2nd fl. every afternoon 1 to 4 p. m. Meetings Sunday 2 p. m.

BALTIMORE — 1121 E. Baltimore St. 3rd floor, front. Phone WOlfe 9321M. Open daily 5-9 p.m. MILITANT and FOURTH INTERNATIONAL on sale.

BOSTON—Workers Educational Center, 30 Stuart St., open Mon. 5:30-9:00 p.m., Wed. 7-10 p.m.

BUFFALO—Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd fl. Phone MAdison 3960. Every afternoon except Sun.

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LOS ANGELES—Militant Publ. Assn., Room 325, 124 W. 6th St. Phone VAndyke 8061.

SAN PEDRO—Militant, 1008 S. Pacific Room 214.

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CHELSEA—130 W. 23rd St. Phone AL 5-2488.

OAKLAND (Cal.) — 1408 Webster.

PHILADELPHIA — 1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd fl. Phone Stevenson 4-5820. Open daily. Forum, Fri., 8 p.m.

PITTSBURGH—1418 Fifth Ave., 2nd fl. Forums 2nd Fri. each month. Marxist class 4 p.m. every Sat. Meetings every Thurs., 7:30 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO—1739 Fillmore Ave., 4th fl. Phone FI 6-0410. Daily except Sun., 12-4:30 p.m.

SEATTLE—Maynard Bldg., 1st Ave., R. 201, So. & Washington. Tel. Main 9278. Mon. through Sat., 12-5 p.m. Branch meeting, Fri., 8 p.m. Library, bookstore.

ST. LOUIS—Jefferson and Lafayette Ave., United Halls, Hall No. 3. Militant Forums. Thurs., 7:30-10 p.m.

TOLEDO — Monthly open meeting. Third Thurs. 8 p.m., Kapps Hall, 413 Summit, Room 3.

WORCESTER, (Mass.) — For information write P.O. Box 554, Worcester.

YOUNGSTOWN — 234 E. Federal St., Phone 3-1355. Wed., Fri., Sat., 1:30 to 4 p.m.

THE MILITANT

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Five Million Jobless, Report Of Census Bureau Indicates

While government economists continue to view the economic sag with "cautious optimism," the cold statistics on employment issued by the U. S. Census Bureau reveal a far from rosy picture. On April 8, the Bureau reported 57,647,000 persons employed in March, a 4 million drop from last July. The number of totally unemployed was given at 3,167,000 — a figure based almost exclusively on the number of workers seeking or obtaining unemployment compensation during the month.

The Bureau issued another very significant figure, however. It reported that a sample seven-day survey in March disclosed that of the 57½ millions listed as employed, 21% or 11,914,000, have been reduced to less than 35 hours work per week, with corresponding reductions in take-home pay.

AMONG THE "EMPLOYED"

Workers who work only one day, or even one hour, per week are listed as "employed." And of the nearly 12 million listed as only partially employed, the report admits, 1,816,000 did not work at all. They were listed in the employed column because they were laid off for less than a month, were due to report to a new job within a month, etc.

Thus, the number of FULL-TIME workers last month was only 45,734,000, according to the Census Bureau, and not the 57,647,000 most newspapers implied when they failed to publish the full facts of the Bureau's report.

A breakdown of the Bureau's own figures shows that the number of totally unemployed in any given week in March was close to, if not well over 5,000,000. If to this figure is added those admitted by the government to be only partially employed we have a truly staggering total: **Almost 16 million American workers now out of jobs entirely or working from one to four days of a regular five-day week.**

These figures, taken from **conservative** government sources, bear out the contention of the CIO United Electrical Workers that the number of unemployed has been greatly underestimated in the statements of government officials. The UE's charges have been attacked by Washington and the capitalist press, which simply claim that the UE is "communist" — that is, Stalinist-dominated — and therefore anything it says is not to be accepted as accurate.

CLAIM AND COUNTER-CLAIM

Government spokesmen and the American Big Business press have been denouncing the Moscow press for its article on April 8 stating that there are at least 5 million unemployed in this country and that lay-offs are increasing. Will Lissner in the April 9 **N. Y. Times** purports to examine the figures published by the Moscow paper **Trud** and concludes that "some statistics were manipulated."

As an example Lissner claims that "**Trud's** estimate of railroad unemployment [in the U. S.] at 100,000 is 50% exaggerated" and that anyway railroad dismissals "were related to the coal stoppage" last month. **But a Feb. 13 survey of the Associated Press—more than a month before the miners' two-week strike—reported the number of railroad unemployed at 100,000 and related this to "a decline in business."**

A **N. Y. Times** article from Geneva, datelined April 7, complains that the Soviet representatives have asked the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe to discuss the unemployment problem and admits that this question can "cause maximum embarrassment" to the U. S. and its allies. **The Kremlin lies a lot about a lot of things—but it doesn't have to lie about unemployment in the capitalist countries. Even the doctored figures from Washington tend to bear out Moscow's claim in this instance.**

CCNY Students Keep Ranks Firm In Protest Strike

By Arthur Kent

NEW YORK, April 14 — Students at the College of the City of New York today ended the third day of their strike despite vicious police intimidation. This strike comes on the heels of a previous sit-down in CCNY last Fall and a walkout of Walton High School girls in the Bronx only a few weeks ago.

The issue behind the present CCNY walkout is clear cut. Two teachers, Prof. Knickerbocker and Mr. Davis, have been accused of racial prejudice by students and by other faculty members. Four years ago, Knickerbocker was brought to trial before the Board of Education on the charge of anti-Semitism but was acquitted. However the Hart Anti-Discrimination Committee of the New York City Council investigated the case and upheld the accusations. The CCNY administration has nevertheless permitted Knickerbocker to continue to teach.

Davis was brought up on trial before a faculty committee some time ago on the charge of discrimination against Negroes. The charges were substantiated at this trial and Davis was removed from the administrative post he had held. CCNY President Wright, however, re-appointed him as an instructor, with a substantial wage increase.

In reply to these shenanigans, the students have demanded the suspension of both Knickerbocker and Davis until a new and definitive trial is held. The college administration ignored this demand. The Student Council of the uptown college buildings held a referendum on the question of strike action last Friday. An overwhelming majority cast their ballots for a strike.

The strike began Monday. Strike headquarters were set up in the Hillel Foundation headquarters directly opposite the college. A crew of students made the hundreds of posters and mimeographed leaflets used in the strike. A functioning organization of Strike Committee, supervisors, picket captains and pickets was soon established. Finances for the strike came from the Student Council treasury and through the sale of blood by students.

Contrary to press and police reports, the strike has been orderly except where the police themselves used violence to break up mass picketing and to prevent the use of public address systems.

The demonstration on Wednesday, as big as the one on the first day, disproved the claims of the New York dailies, who in line with their policy of misrepresenting the strike, reported that it was crumbling.

The students plan to continue their strike after the Easter holidays unless their demands are granted. Among the many significant unions and community organizations supporting the student strike are the Teachers Union, Local 555, and the Harlem Branch of the NAACP.

Strikebreaking in Cleveland

A scene from the strike at the Fawick Airflex Plant, which was finally broken by a court decree, holding strike leaders in two million dollars bail and banning all picketing at the plant.

Cleveland Strike Pickets Held on 2-Million Bond

(Continued from page 1)

AFL and CIO bureaucracies — and the Stalinists.

Throughout the Fawick strike, neither the CIO Council nor its officers took any stand in support of the Fawick workers. Even in the face of the open strike-breaking of the AFL, they chose not to move a finger or say a word.

STALINIST ROLE

Without mitigating in the least the crime of the official CIO leadership, it should be said here that the Stalinists were reaping the ripe harvest of their ten years of domination of the Cleveland CIO movement. During this ten-year period, they did everything to break down labor solidarity and to raise up against themselves the type of opposition now in top CIO leadership — ignorant, red-baiting elements blinded by factionalism.

The behavior of the Stalinists in the strike, in the face of official CIO abstention, is extremely suspicious. At no time did the leaders of the strike contact the CIO Couhcil for support, nor publicly call for such support.

In the Auto Council, where the Stalinists are very influential, it was an anti-Stalinist militant who introduced a motion calling for CIO backing. The Stalinists did not even support the motion on the floor. Moreover, none of the well-known Stalinist union officials in the CIO movement gave any public support to the strike or called upon the CIO to support it.

One can only conclude that the Stalinists were well satisfied with the situation where they were acting like militant fighters while the Murray leadership permitted the company, the AFL and the courts to smash a CIO local.

EXCEPTION

In the entire labor movement only one prominent leader took a clear-cut position on the Fawick strike. David Fitzmaurice, vice-president of the CIO Council, announced his support of the Fawick workers, condemned AFL strike-breaking, and called for the CIO to support the strike and save a CIO local from being smashed by this company-AFL combination. Fitzmaurice is an anti-Stalinist leader of the big General Electric local here.

His support created a sensation for one day and it looked like a turning point in the strike. But it was too little to change the situation since no one else in the CIO responded.

AUTO COUNCIL

The only other public support from any source came from the Cleveland Auto Council. Here a delegate from Local 337, UAW-CIO, long known as a militant, anti-Stalinist local, introduced a motion calling upon the officers of the CIO Council to convene a meeting of representatives of all local unions in the city to take action to halt the company-AFL strikebreaking and support the Fawick strikers.

No Stalinist took the floor to speak for the motion. Pat O'Malley, President of the CIO Council, stated that the UE had not asked for support. Delegate Frazer of Local 337 replied that regardless of the motives or the mistakes of the leaders of UE Local 735, it was the duty of the CIO leadership to take action to defend any CIO Local under such an attack and that factional considerations should not enter into the question.

A couple of delegates spoke in favor of the motion and it was passed unanimously. O'Malley and the council officers ignored the motion and continued to do nothing.

TERRIBLE PRECEDENT

Thus, the leaders of the Cleveland labor movement have permitted a strike to be smashed and a terrible precedent to be set which will surely be used against many other unions.

The breaking of the Fawick strike has aroused the ranks of the labor movement, CIO and AFL, as nothing has done in years. CIO workers are becoming increasingly aware of the need of a genuine left wing. AFL workers in the shops are shocked and dismayed by this action of their leaders.

The lesson has been costly and this may not be the last one. The task of the militants is to explain the full meaning of this experience, to arouse the labor movement to the growing menace of strikebreaking injunctions and jurisdictional warfare, and to work toward the building of a genuine left-wing.

First Results of the New Rent Law

When Truman signed the new rent "control" law, he said that it would give "more effective protection for tenants" than the old law.

But in the first week after the new law went into effect, Housing Expediter T. Woods had removed federal rent ceilings from about 148,000 rental units in 27 states, and that was only the beginning.

Truman's Housing Expediter isn't even waiting for local and state governments to exercise their "option" under the law to decontrol rents in their own areas.

Cancer Control Month

By Grace Carlson

April has been set aside by the American Cancer Society as Cancer Control Month. During April, special educational movies and lectures are given and leaflets and pamphlets with facts about cancer are widely distributed so that cancer, which now takes 170,000 lives annually, may be brought under control.

Although medical scientists do not yet know the exact cause of the Number Two Killer, they are able to offer very useful advice on the importance of early detection and treatment of cancer. More important still, they are able to demonstrate that cancer may be prevented in many instances if certain environmental conditions are controlled.

The natural environment contains only a few cancer-producing substances or carcinogens. One of these is solar radiation, which may cause cancer of the skin in certain light-skinned people who become overexposed for long periods of time to ultraviolet radiation in southern dry and sunny climates.

But it is in the occupational activities of an industrial society that most of the carcinogenic dangers are found. Here workers come into close and prolonged contact with substances which either have never before existed in the natural environment, or have existed in such weak concentrations as to be relatively harmless.

In a very illuminating booklet, Dr. W. C. Hueper, Director of the Environmental Cancer Division of the National Cancer Institute lists all of the known chemicals used in industrial processes which have been studied as cancer-producing agents. Dr. Hueper reports, for example, that a study of the cobalt mines of Schneeberg, Germany, showed that 80% died of lung cancer as a result of radio-active poisons.

Among other carcinogens listed are:

Name	Organs Affected
Aromatic amines	Bladder
Paraffin Oil	Skin
Benzol	Bone Marrow (leukemia)
Pitch and Tar	Skin
Nickel Carbonyl	Nasal sinuses, lung
Lubricating Oils	Skin
Tar Fumes	Lung
Creosote	Skin

By exposing animals in the laboratory to these substances, experimental cancers have been produced in mice, rabbits, dogs and rats, thus offering conclusive evidence that these agents are carcinogenic.

Dr. Hueper has a series of very important rules for the protection of workers who use such substances in their plants:

"Adequate protective clothing, respirators, and gloves should be given workers handling carcinogenic substances; separate lockers should be provided for work and street clothes; shower facilities should be installed for all workers; and a thorough indoctrination of exposed workers in the methods of avoiding exposure to the carcinogens they handle should be made a part of all personnel routine."

Workers experienced in the money-saving ways of the employers will understand immediately that Dr. Hueper's sound advice will not be accepted by management — unless the trade unions enter the cancer control program by enforcing these safety regulations for members who are exposed to the dread cancer-producing agents.

The Human Scrap Heap

By John G. Wright

The current leap in unemployment once again brings into sharp focus, among other things, the plight of middle-aged men and women under the system of "free enterprise." The years of the war boom served to cover up temporarily how difficult it really is for people in this age group to find employment, even under conditions of prosperity.

To illustrate, let us cite recent experiences in the wealthy state of New York. Here a special "counseling service" for those over 50 years old has been in operation for the last 16 months. Yet in this period of peak "peacetime" employment, the New York State Employment Service has been able to find jobs for "only 404 men and women over 50 years old out of 5,400 interviewed," or less than one out of every ten. This figure was made public by Miss Houghton, supervisor of Adult Counseling Service of the N. Y. State Employment Service.

As jobs become scarcer, the plight of the middle-aged obviously becomes utterly hopeless. In the face of this problem, a group of New York social workers has just held a panel discussion, attended by representatives of the Welfare Council and 130 other affiliated organizations. The speakers agreed that we are threatened with an era of "fearful fifties," with the middle aged being forced onto "public relief rolls and into mental hospitals." **(N. Y. Times,** April 16.)

Miss Randall, who chaired this conference, said quite frankly that there was "little hope for either the aged or middle-aged in the way of gainful employment." There are in this country some 15 million men and women in the 50 to 59 year old group alone. Most of them now face the prospect of becoming paupers; many of them, of losing their sanity.

Miss Randall urged "support of state bills proposing counseling service for older workers." The only good this might do would be to provide some additional jobs for social service workers and presumably keep some of them from completely losing their own sanity.

As if to underscore the blind-alley in which older workers find themselves, Mr. Irving Barshop, supervisor of placement of the Federation Employment Service, told the conference that it was the practice of "most employers" to refuse to hire not only those in their fifties but "even women as young as 35, or men as young as 38."

In prewar days, workers in their forties found themselves on the scrap heap. They were temporarily salvaged by the war boom only to find themselves grown older and discarded again at an older age. And now a new generation in its middle and late thirties is already beginning to repeat this same inhuman experience. A bigger and better human scrap heap — this is what capitalism has to offer to the vast majority of adults who are lucky enough to survive its periodic world holocausts.

Not-So-Free Enterprise

By Ruth Johnson

Remember how the Big Business mouthpieces were shouting, just three years ago, that "free enterprise" would bring us lower prices and prosperity — if only price controls were smashed? The government obeyed its master's voice, and tore away the last shreds of the wartime ceilings.

Nobody needs to remind you how prices leaped, we were unable to buy things we needed, inventories piled up, and millions lost their jobs because the market is glutted. Now the corporations are singing a different tune.

There have been some frank statements in **Women's Wear Daily,** a publication written for store executives and rarely read by workers.

On March 24 it headlined an article "To Cut Output Rather than Prices, Wool Mills Report." The story said: "Out of the 'buzz' created by the American Woolen Co. statement, curtailment of production rather than reduced prices emerged as the general policy to be followed by the mills . . . Rumors of shutdowns which could not be confirmed were flying around the market. One selling agency head noted that he heard of a mill operating three shifts — Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday."

What of the lower prices they promised so short a time ago? "Generally speaking, executives feel that it is useless to go into an operation to make goods below cost to satisfy a retail public that is bargain conscious."

By "below cost," they mean of course below the all-time record loot the textile mills grabbed in the war and postwar profit-spree.

The wealthy monopolies can afford to toss their workers onto the street, and wait until "surpluses" are used up. Meanwhile, the "fair trade laws" they put on the statute books are supposed to keep prices up.

But it seems that some hard-pressed retailers, who have shelves groaning with stuff no one can buy, have figured out a dodge. They are advertising perfectly good merchandise as "irregular" or "sub-standard" in order to sell it for less!

This really upsets the **Women's Wear** editors. A front-page column in the same issue is devoted to an attack on this "unscrupulous" scheme.

"Now it all comes out in the open, what we've been suspecting for some time," the column wails. It "throws the spotlight on certain practices whereby the customer is fooled. Not that the merchandise isn't as **good** as stated, but that the merchandise is not as **inferior** as represented."

What to do about this fearful threat to high prices? The column reminds its readers, "If you say merchandise is good when it isn't, the Better Business Bureau and all their associates can get after you. What's the procedure when the reverse deal is pulled?"

Maybe they'll pass some more "fair trade" laws to prevent you from getting those rare bargains. Maybe they'll just boycott the little offenders, and drive them out of business. In any case, they've given us further proof of what **The Militant** has always explained: only the monopolists are free under "free enterprise."

Notes from the News

THE TRUTH IS "SUBVERSIVE" — Rep. John E. Rankin wants Drew Pearson banned from the air because he broadcast the fact that ex-Secretary of Defense Forrestal, who is now in a hospital, "is out of his mind and apparently has been partly so for some weeks." Pearson thinks it would be wise to "review" some of the important decisions made by Forrestal during his last weeks in office, when he already "was not completely in his right mind."

* * *

LORA ALBRO ILL — Lora Albro of Flint, Mich., long an ardent supporter of **The Militant,** underwent a serious operation recently. Lora is the mother of Genora Dollinger of Flint and Bea Allen of Detroit. Friends can write her at the Hurley Hospital in Flint, where she is now convalescing. Here's wishing you a speedy recovery, Lora.

* * *

MORE ON LOCAL 302 — The AFL has petitioned the NLRB for an election at the New Kensington ALCOA plant where bargaining rights are now held by Local 302, CIO United Steelworkers of America. If an NLRB election is held, Local 302 will not be on the ballot because the USA has not signed the "non-communist" affidavit. (The history of this local, now under receivership by an appointee of Philip Murray, was reported in last week's **Militant.**)

* * *

"FAIR DEAL" FOR WHOM? — "The 'Fair Deal' is turning out to be fair only to American rent sharks, race-baiters, slave-drivers, thought-controllers and munition makers," according to a legislative committee report unanimously adopted by UE Local 103 at the RCA Camden plant.

* * *

VERN SMITH'S APPEAL — The U. S. Supreme Court has received the appeal of Vern Smith, convicted of "contempt" for refusing to be sworn before the Tenney Committee, California's legislative witch-hunt body. Smith, former editor of the **Daily People's World,** was expelled from the Communist Party some time ago. Smith's appeal to the Supreme Court contends the Tenney Committee is unconstitutional. His defense is endorsed by the SWP.

* * *

CHRISTIANITY AND CHILDREN — Archbishop Richard J. Cushing, of the Boston Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church, last week denounced proposed federal legislation for increased child welfare as a "dangerous step toward the 'slave state' we deplore so much abroad and fear so much at home." He also urged the defeat of federal public health insurance legislation on the same grounds.

* * *

CONSISTENT ANYHOW — Upton Sinclair, the novelist who supported the first and second world wars, is lined up for the third as well. "The greatest hope for a continuation of our civilization lies in the Atlantic Pact supported by free countries and other free people," he said in denial of a Russian claim that he was friendly to the Soviet Union.

Report on the ADA Chicago Convention

(Continued from Page 1)

merely says discrimination "should" be barred.

A group of Southern-white delegates attacked the resolution from the opposite point of view, trying unsuccessfully to knock out the FEPC demand as "poor strategy."

The convention supported the Atlantic Pact, but many delegates wanted, to knock totalitarian Portugal out of the setup. When they were told that would disorganize the whole alliance, they replied, "OK! That will teach the State Department not to try to ram things down our throats."

FOREIGN POLICY

A motion that the U. S. pull out of Greece unless democratic reforms are put into effect forthwith was defeated by a close vote. The chair then ruled out of order a motion to delete from the foreign policy resolution a clause to the effect that "we can't pull out of Greece" no matter what happens. The convention overruled the chair and deleted the clause from the resolution.

The delegates next added to the resolution a demand that no further aid be given the Dutch until they cease their imperialist attacks on Indonesia. They also asked that General MacArthur be recalled from Japan and denounced the policies of the U. S. generals in Germany.

"We unequivocally condemn the fascist regime in Spain," the convention declared.

Senator Humphrey was re-elected ADA chairman and Governor Chester Bowles, Senator Frank Graham, Leon Henderson, Paul A. Porter and Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., were among those elected to the national board.

CIO officials elected to the ADA board are James Carey, Allen Haywood, Walter Reuther, John Green and Emil Rieve.

AFL officials on the board include David Dubinsky, Sal Hoffman, John Eklund, B. F. McLaurin and Arnold Zander.

Also elected to the ADA board were Harvey Brown of the IAM, A. F. Whitney of the BRT and a few liberals variously occupied.

The ADA was launched early in 1947 as an anti-Stalinist, peoples-front type coalition of union officials, capitalist politicians and liberal intellectuals. It came into existence partly because of the break with the Stalinists and partly because Truman was then cleaning the few remaining New Dealers out of his rightward-moving administration.

HISTORY OF ADA

For a year and a half ADA concentrated entirely on the fight against the Stalinists. Its first big political break came when the vote-hungry Northern Democratic big-city machines lined up with ADA to write civil rights and Taft-Hartley repeal planks into the 1948 Democratic platform.

Truman's surprise victory swept several ADA'ers into public office, gave them a slice of the federal patronage and enabled ADA to recruit a few thousand new members. Then they ran into the present road block of the Republican-Southern Democratic coalition in Congress.

A behind-the-scene dispute occurred here at the convention between the capitalist politicians and the union officials concerning ADA policy toward the Democratic Party.

BEHIND-SCENES DISPUTE

Efforts by the Democratic politicians to have ADA enter the Democratic Party were rebuffed. A counter-demand that ADA make no general commitment of support to the Democratic Party was vigorously opposed on the ground that it would put ADA's Democratic officeholders on the spot. The convention adopted a compromise pledging cooperation with the Democratic Party but retaining the right to back other candidates.

The CIO and AFL officials have kept the PAC and LEPL committees entirely separated from the ADA. All union members and officers belonging to ADA have joined as individuals.

The top union officials tend to look upon the ADA as a sounding board for pressure politics inside the capitalist political parties, and as a place where union members eager for political action can let off steam.

Many rank and filers, on the other hand, already tend to think of ADA as a party. In the Commission on Organization, which was left pretty much in the hands of the Jimmy Higgins workers, they talked about the need to construct ADA along party organizational lines.

The spirit of the ADA rank and file was quite accurately described by Murray D. Lincoln, president of the Cooperative League, who received a big hand when he declared, "We may not know where we're going, but we don't want to go back where we've been."

READ

Fourth International